

SOME NEW BOOKS.

Dr. Hill has made under the title of "The Wit and Wisdom of Samuel Johnson" (Clarendon Press), an excellent selection from the sayings and writings of Johnson, arranging them alphabetically under their respective subjects. The range of topics covered is wide, and the little book issued from the Clarendon Press is of a kind to do good service to speakers, teachers and writers, while those who read simply for amusement will find in its pages a vast quantity of interesting and suggestive matter. Selections confined to the writings would have been rather too formal, not to say stilted, for the average modern taste; but Dr. Hill has drawn freely from Boswell, and Johnson's conversation is always so much more vigorous and so to say human, than his written words, that these extracts enlighten and enliven the compendium refreshingly. There is a capital introductory essay by the compiler, in which the familiarity with his author acquired through editorial labor is turned to good account. The soundness of Johnson's common sense and the independence of his intellectual habits are brought into strong relief by these methodized excerpts.

"Notes for Boys (and Their Fathers) on Morsels, Mind and Manners" (A. C. McClure & Co.) is an English book reprinted without alteration. It presents the wholesome old-fashioned morality and ideals of conduct entertained, it is to be feared, at a rapidly dwindling minority. For that reason it is of course all the more likely to prove useful, if only the present generation, grown and growing, can be induced to read it. It is not doubtful that any boy of average capacities and predispositions would, by following the advice which this "old boy" offers, become a Christian gentleman in the best sense of both those terms. Once or twice, for instance when he ventures to lay out a course of reading for his son, the author exhibits literary preferences of a kind to perplex as well as astonish. Some of his statements concerning the tendencies of the age too must be taken with an allowance, as where he says that whereas "fifty years ago Shaw was triumphant," now, though "Shaw is not dead yet, he is the next best or worst thing—he is unfashionable." Even for the latitude of England, where this little book was written, such an assertion seems almost grotesquely optimistic. These, however, are small blemishes. The tone of the notes is bracing, morally healthy, and thoroughly manly and pure, and nothing but good can come of putting such literature into the hands of the young.

The author of the "Handbook of Republican Institutions in the United States of America" (Scribner & Welford) is a Scotch lawyer who thinks his countrymen and Britons generally need some such help to the understanding of their adopted country and its institutions. He has compiled a useful digest with this object in view, giving the Federal Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, Washington's farewell address, the Constitution of the State of New-York, sufficiently full accounts of the various branches of the National and State governments, together with summaries of the most important laws, statistics of many kinds, tables from the last census reports, and, generally speaking, a great deal of useful matter. It is rather odd, however, seeing that Mr. Bannatyne wrote for the benefit of aliens principally, that he has omitted all information concerning the naturalization laws. He gives, indeed, a table showing the basis of suffrage in the several States, but those of his British readers who desire to become American citizens will have to seek elsewhere for the manner of changing their allegiance. With this exception, and the inexplicable lack of a general index (not compensated by a full list of contents) Mr. Bannatyne's handbook appears to fulfil its purpose very well.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

ALDEN'S MANIFOLD CYCLOPEDIA OF KNOWLEDGE AND LANGUAGE, Vol. I. (John B. Alden)

LES MISERABLES, By Victor Hugo. Translated from the French by Isabel F. Hapgood. Vol. 3. \$10. pp. 227. (Thomas Y. Crowell Co.)

TREASURE ISLAND, By Robert Louis Stevenson. 12mo, \$1.50. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)

THE GENTLE, By Mrs. Mary W. Weston. Svo. (Topic, Kan.) George W. Crane & Co.)

ART AND LETTERS, An Illustrated Review, January, 1888, February, 1888. (Charles Scribner's Sons)

AMERICAN AND ENGLISH YACHTS, Illustrated. By Edward Burgess. (Charles Scribner's Sons)

ONLY A CORAL GIRL, By Captain Forde. 12mo. pp. 153. Paper. (Harper & Bros.)

A BRIEF AGRICULTURE, By Mason C. Weld. 16mo, pp. 60. (Job Clegg)

THE ART OF INVESTING, By a New-York Broker. 16mo, pp. 100. (Appleton & Co.)

DOCTOR AND PATIENT, By S. Weir Mitchell, M. D., LL. D. 12mo, pp. 177. (Lippincott, Grambo & Co.)

THE DOOM OF MARMILLON, By W. H. Murray. 12mo. pp. 130. (Philadelphia: Hubbard Bros.)

PILGRIMS AND PURITANS, By N. Moore. 16mo. (Boston: C. Ginn & Co.)

STUDENTS, USHS, AND HOW BEST CONSERVED, By J. M. Emerson. 16mo, pp. 61. (Dodd & Pitzer)

NEEVE'S WASTE, By H. C. Sawyer. 12mo, pp. 95. (San Francisco: The Bancroft Company)

THE UNITED STATES, VICTORIAN AND TO-MORROW, By James E. Barnes, D. D. 12mo, pp. 430. (Boston: Roberts Rinehart)

THE GRAPHIC SYSTEM OF OBJECT DRAWING, By Horatio J. Jacobs and Augustus A. Brower. Parts 1, 2, 3 and 4. (A. Lovell & Co.)

New Publications.

HARPER & BROTHERS, New-York,
HAVE JUST PUBLISHED:

L
VOLUME V.
KINGLAKE'S CRIMEAN WAR.

The Invasion of the Crimea; its Origin and an Account of its Progress down to the Death of Lord Raglan. By ALEXANDER WILLIAM KINGLAKE, With Maps and Plans. Five Volumes now ready. Sixth Volume, comprising the work, shortly. 12mo, Cloth, \$2 per vol.

The last work in which the history of a great war will be treated mainly as a succession of personal episodes. The "soldier's battle" was described in the soldier's way, and the humblest private that distinguished himself at Inkermann has his chance of immortality with this book. The characters form a gallery of portraits finished with consummate art.—London Daily News.

II
MONARCHS I HAVE MET.

By W. BAYLEY-KINGSTON. Illustrated with Portraits. Pp. 2, 228. Svo. Paper Covers. 50 cents.

Chatty and vivacious, abounding in pleasant experiences and the personal gossip about great people which all of us like to hear.—N. Y. Mail and Express

III
WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH IT?
MEETING THE SURPLUS.

TAXATION AND REVENUE DISCUSSED. By PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, the Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE, the Hon. HENRY WATSON and the Hon. GEORGE E. EDMUNDS. Svo. Paper Covers. 25 cents.

This instructive pamphlet contains the last message of the President, Mr. Blaine's comments on it, and the Tariff articles contributed to HARPER'S MAGAZINE by the Hon. Henry Watson and the Hon. George E. Edmunds. Will commence in THAT PAPER TO-MORROW

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

Instruction.

For Young Ladies—City.

MISS CHISHOLM'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 15 East 55th-st., New York. Will reopen September 2d. Boys' Classes.

Boys and Young Men—City.

ST. LOUIS COLLEGE, 15 West 43d-st. Select Catholic school; modern languages; business-course; thorough instruction; limited number; choice companionship. Services, 1 P. M.

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